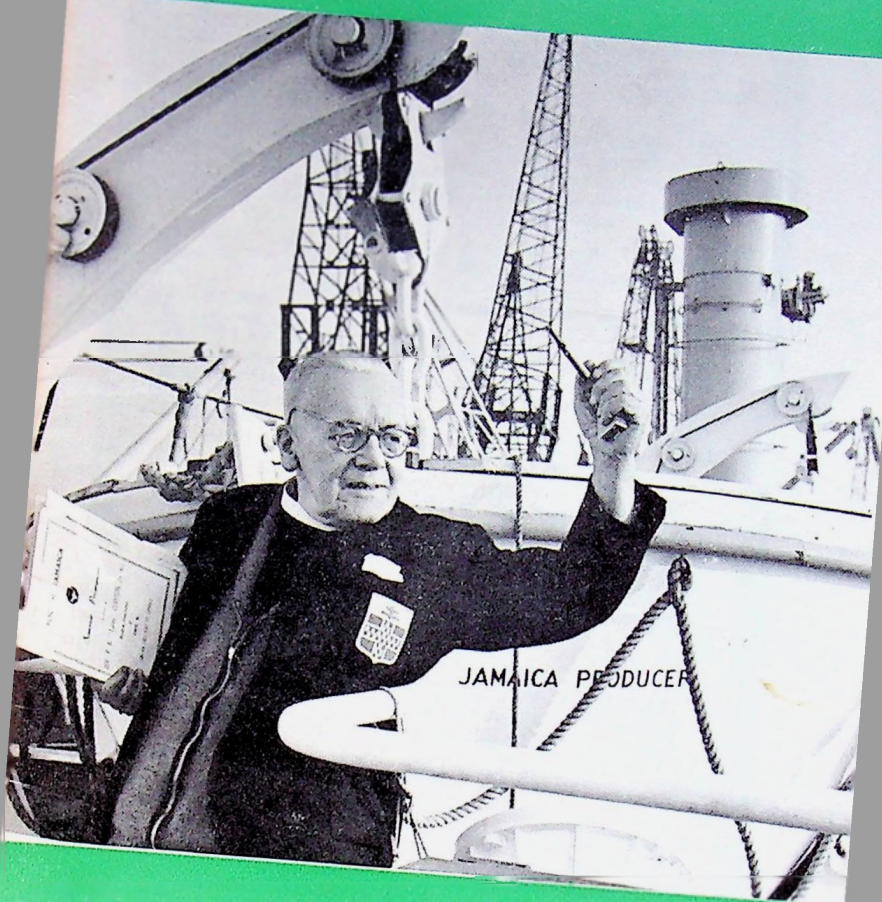


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TOUCH

MARCH 1965



JAMAICA PRODUCER

**Toc H Journal**

NINEPENCE

## Parties to Belgium

A list of parties to Belgium is given below. Enquiries or applications should be sent direct to the organisers whose addresses are shown.

**M**AY 7-14, MARK III AND FRIENDS (formerly Ely Branch Jubilee Party). Rev. G. R. DE MELLO, Prideaux House, Church Crescent, S. Hackney, London, E.9.

**J**UNE 4-11, ALL HALLOWS young people's ecumenical adventure. Rev. MICHAEL ROWDON, 42 Trinity Sq., London, E.C.3.

**J**ULY 9-17, FRIENDS OF THE OLD HOUSE, including Paris and Bruges. CYRIL CATTELL, Toc H H.Q., 15 Trinity Sq., London, E.C.3.

**A**UGUST 23-27, VETERANS' PARTY, including Arras and the Somme. Leader JACK CLARK. Applications to Old House Secretary, Toc H H.Q., 15 Trinity Square, London, E.C.3.

**A**UGUST 28—SEPTEMBER 4, Five days in Bruges and two days at the Old House, including day excursion to Holland. Details from SKEGG BLANCHARD, Toc H H.Q., 15 Trinity Sq., London, E.C.3.

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## London Jubilee Week

The first-comers applying for tickets for the London Jubilee Week, May 15-23, are already being served. Have you ordered yours? Branch and Individual Application Forms were sent out some weeks ago.

## Index

The Index for Volume XLII is now available. Readers wishing to obtain copies are invited to send a stamped, addressed envelope (2½d.) to the Editorial Office.

## Advertisers

Manufacturers of a wide range of articles of interest to our readers will find the JOURNAL pages helpful in making their goods and services known. Enquiries about space and charges will be welcomed by Stan Waters, who handles our advertising, at Messrs. Arthur H. Wheeler & Co., St. Stephen's House, Victoria Embankment, London, S.W.1.

Forty-third year



of Publication

# TOC H JOURNAL

*Letters and articles are welcomed and are printed as individual points of view  
and are not necessarily those of the Movement*

**MARCH 1965**

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COVER PICTURE: JAMAICA BOUND: The Founder Padre  
at Southampton in January before sailing for a two-month visit to  
ToC H in the West Indies.

*Photograph by Fox Photos Ltd.*

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## INTO THE POOL

WHEN ONE BEGINS to plan for something years ahead there is always the inability at the back of one's mind to visualise it actually coming to pass. Like the notice on the vacant plot of

### Jubilee Year

land which proclaimed, "Site for new Methodist Church", slightly marred in its effect by the Wayside Pulpit notice alongside, which said, "Don't worry, it may never happen!" Some among us began to plan for the Toc H Jubilee years ago, others, perhaps, may have treated it as something too much of the remote future to bother greatly about. Now, whether we like it or not, we are all in Jubilee Year, with a tremendous programme of local as well as national events ahead of us. May good success attend our efforts, and we hope we shall have a rich story to tell.

A THREE-YEAR-OLD BOY, his hands tied behind his back, spent the coldest night of the year on the bathroom floor under an open window. As might be expected, he died from exposure. Brutalities like this are by no means rare and the

### Cruelty to Children

amount of lesser cruelty to children in this country is a good deal more than ordinary respectable people like to think. The very least that Toc H members can do is to become informed upon the subject. This they can do by making friends with the local Inspector of the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children. Thereby they may be able to help and encourage him in his difficult work. Last year over 120,000 British children were helped by the N.S.P.C.C., nearly 50% of them under five years of age. To increase its effectiveness the Society has just launched a Special Building & Development Appeal for £250,000. Details of this Appeal and of the work of the Society may be obtained from 1 Riding House Street, London, W.1.

HAVING RECENTLY given some prominence to the need for members to take seriously the growing impact of automation on the national life, we felt gratified that this turned out to be the

### **Automation's Impact**

subject of this year's B.B.C. Reith Lectures by Sir Leon Bagrit. He has left listeners in no doubt of the immense changes that will soon come to our whole way of life as a result of the inevitable increase of leisure. Branches will do well to get hold of the lectures, as serialised in the *Listener*, or in the book *The Age of Automation*, published by Weidenfeld & Nicolson at 15s.

PERHAPS IT IS evidence of the value of the JOURNAL as a communicator of new ideas that almost every year it is possible to detect some new fashion among the jobs of service Branches go in for. At one time it was hospital broad-

### **Cross- Fertilisation**

casts; another year it was television sets for old folks; woodchopping also had its vogue. Last year there seemed to be a wave of interest in holiday caravans for use by needy families, with tape recordings of local news for the blind coming a good second.

WE ARE RIGHTLY PROUD of the Toc H London Male Voice Choir, which throughout each year travels to every part of Greater London, bringing music and good humour to old folks, to

### **Service in Song**

hospitals, prisons and blind clubs and is also to be found on special occasions on Tower Hill, or singing carols on Victoria Station. If Branches in other parts of the country want to know what the choir sounds like they may like to borrow from Headquarters the twenty-five-minute tape recording which they made of eight Toc H hymns, details of which were given in the April JOURNAL last year.

WHENEVER WE HAVE attended a music concert we have wondered whether the soloists toddled off home as soon as their own part in the performance was over, or whether they sat somewhere in

### **Unforced Harmony**

the audience to enjoy the rest of the evening's music-making. It was interesting therefore to read in the *Hendon and Finchley Times* that internationally famous artistes are regularly to be found in the audience at Mill Hill Toc H Celebrity Concerts. Thus Denis Matthews usually comes to listen to the Amadeus String Quartet; John Ogdon came to hear fellow pianist Vladimir Ashkenazy; and Gina Bachauer was there when John Ogdon himself was the performer. This says much of the artistes; it says much, too, of the high quality of the Mill Hill concerts. All Toc H will have an opportunity to savour that quality at the Jubilee concert in the Royal Festival Hall on May 21 when Annie Fischer will be the soloist.

## " Their Finest Hour "

No finer endorsement of Winston Churchill's famous phrase was ever written than "Long Night", by Barclay Baron, in the September-October 1940 Journal. We reproduce it here, somewhat condensed, for another generation of members to cherish.

THE SCENE IS St. Stephen's Services Club. The period is the second week of the Battle of London, September 1940. The action of the piece covers twelve hours, from black-out till dawn.

8 *p.m.*: Big Ben, who towers above our heads across the road, strikes the hour and, punctual as usual, the siren on the roof of Scotland Yard next door fills the club with its horrid wail—for the sixth time today. The long night begins.

Guardsmen Cantle stands by the swing door, rifle in hand, on duty. He has just come in from the doorstep to report a big fire somewhere in the South-East, for methodical 'Jerry' tries every evening to plant a row of beacons early in the proceedings to guide the successive waves of raiders.

8.30 *p.m.*: The eastern sky is lighted with continual distant flashes, for all the world like the line at Ypres seen from Poperinge, and bursts of shrapnel add momentary new stars to the darkening sky. The barrage is opening. The throb of an enemy bomber, flying very high, starts a steady crescendo. One of the guns down River opens up with a startling crash. A pom-pom gives four breathless barks, and his big brother somewhere far behind us roars the bass part of the chorus. It is time to clear the lounge, and a word sends all hands to the basement for the rest of the night.

9.30 *p.m.*: The basement, brightly lighted, makes a busy picture. The bar in the corner, rigged up here ten days ago, is crowded with customers, eating meat pies, drinking tea

and talking cheerfully to Toc H in its shirt sleeves and L.W.H. in green overall across the counter. There are old friends in tonight—two young sailors and an Aussie sergeant who have stayed with us in quieter times. They are due respectively at Chatham and at Aldershot, but they will not get there tonight. And there are many newcomers—three R.A.F. lads who heard of us from friends returning from leave spent at the club, a Canadian sergeant-major, a couple of merchant seamen, three Home Guards (barrister, corn-merchant and grocery boy by trade) and a fat, hoarse-voiced mate of the 'Thames Navy', the little steamers which lie off our pier for the night and will start their bus-trips down the River again at daylight. A heavy slow march across the hall above and down the stairs heralds a Grenadier in full kit and tin hat, with his customary enamel jug for sixpennyworth of tea and a parcel of sandwiches for the Bren-gun post at the corner. At intervals throughout the night this heavy march with tea-jugs will be repeated, for the men in the posts round about have been our customers and friends ever since the night when, risking a bayonet in the stomach, we called in on their sandbagged fortresses with hot meat pies and a greeting from Toc H. They know where welcome waits, even when they can't dally long to enjoy it.

10.15 *p.m.*: Our team is a man short tonight. This is not accounted strange, for getting to the club after the siren blows presents a jig-saw puzzle, in terms of transport, to our faithful helpers night after night. But now the telephone rings in the office and the reason is made plain. John Marston of Mark II will not keep his engagement here tonight. Last evening, visiting friends in a suburb, he was killed by a bomb. A golden lad, a member of fine character and promise, very well liked by us all, he has been killed on active service—let us be clear about that—the first name on St. Stephen's roll of honour. "With proud thanksgiving—."

10.30 *p.m.*: The scream of a bomb coming down—horrible sound! Is it 'meant' for us? We hold hard and wait. A stun-



ning crash shakes the building. At the same moment our revolving door upstairs whirls round and Guardsman Cantle arrives full length in the hall, with a clatter of rifle and side-arms. A Toc H man, on his way to the office, goes down behind a pillar. A moment or two later they are sitting up on the floor, laughing at each other—"That was a near one!" And then the door goes round again, more slowly, and a policeman pushes in a little old lady, pale and shaken but holding herself gallantly. "They've got the Hospital again" (it is the third time), says the copper quietly, "Good night", and he is gone. The old lady is led by the arm downstairs, put in an armchair and given a cup of tea. She has travelled all day from the depths of Cornwall and she is on her way to see a son badly wounded in a raid at Sheffield. On a trestle table, furnished with a mattress and blankets, we shall soon tuck her up for the night. She has only one thought in her mind—to catch the first train in the morning for the North. She has not lost her self-possession for a moment: love has cast out fear.

10.45 *p.m.*: And now we are busy bedding down our mixed family. The Toc H night team, helped by a couple of Service members, are bringing the canvas beds and the blankets, three per man, out of store. Three of the night staff retire, fully dressed, to blankets: they will get up at 3 a.m. to relieve the shift which remains on duty. So St. Stephen's goes to bed, as it were, in the front line.

11.45 *p.m.*: Sleep has been deep, for all of us sleep whenever the chance is given in this second week of the Battle of London. The intermittent chorus of the barrage, now a far rumble, now enormous thunder all round us outside, has been our lullaby, half heard in a fantastic dream.

Suddenly, without any warning scream, there is a terrific crash. The night is full of dust and falling glass, a cascade down the five storeys above us into the area outside, which seems to go on and on and on. Men start out of bed in every stage of undress, except that, in most cases, they wear, as by instinct, and a little comically, their tin hats. "Anyone hurt?" One man, our little Welsh barber, cut across the nose



and chin by slivers of glass, a Toc H man with a bleeding shin, that's all, thank Heaven! First aid gets to work while we dash upstairs. The hall is a fog of brown dust, the big folding door is burst open to the street, glass crunches underfoot everywhere. Under the brilliant moon the County Hall facing us is a noble sight, and a terrible beauty has suddenly been added to it now. The whole core of the building, between its tall pillars, is a leaping red flame. Already the fire engines are clanging over Westminster Bridge, but even before them the ambulances, with gongs ringing, have crossed to the rescue. In the mingled glare of the fire and tranquil moonlight the tall windows of the Club gape open, rimmed with sharp teeth of glass; the plate glass fronts of the shops next door lie in glittering fragments heaped up on the pavement. This was no ordinary bomb, but a 'land-mine', dropped gently by parachute and touched off by infernal clockwork on the River terrace of the County Hall. Meanwhile, what of the fire? Already we can see swift figures of firemen silhouetted against the blaze. How soon will they get it under? Selfishly we are thinking less of a beautiful building's fate than of our own. For we want no beacon to light the way to us for the next raider who comes over.

And then Big Ben, his face a little disfigured by the explosion, begins his deliberate chime. The great bell tolls midnight, unhurried, clear and loud, vastly reassuring—the voice of the Mother of Parliaments saying that, after all, "freedom shall not perish from the earth".

We go back to bed and to dreamless sleep.

5.15 a.m.: The 'All Clear' is sounding, at last! I stand on our high roof, beside the Guardsman who has done duty there in the hours of raid. The skylights are cracked by explosion, their frames burst asunder; there are fresh shrapnel holes in the roofing slates. In the virginal freshness of the morning the scene from this roof-top is beautiful beyond any words. The world stands at the point of dawn, the sky dim pearl, with fading stars, except to the north-east, where the grand dome of St. Paul's stands up against

the glare of a vast fire somewhere behind. Now and again a tip of pure flame leaps above the City roofs and a low cloud of smoke, lit to a dull amber from below, rolls lazily along the eastern horizon.

6.15 *a.m.*: Authentic dawn is creeping into the high vault above in a palest flush of rose. The scarred face of Big Ben, the towers of Westminster Abbey, the great square bastion of Shell-Mex catch the first hint of sunrise, the distant ridge of Shooters Hill looms smoky-blue against it. And Westminster Bridge still stands, ready for the ceaseless traffic of another day.

6.30 *a.m.*: Regular exercise in these days is a minor problem, but here goes, on a lovely morning, for half-an-hour's walk. At first glance the landscape looks unchanged. The Abbey stands fair as ever, but there is a 'dent' in the roadway facing Wren's towers and some gaps in the West window. Further down the street there is a 'tooth missing' in the line of tall office buildings. Roof, rubble, furniture and filing system have slid together through four floors into the street. The police are cordoning it off, the rescue lorry is on the spot, with tired men in tin hats and waders hard at work. 'Diversion' (the yellow notice now so familiar) sends traffic into little back streets. There the oil shop on the corner is a black skeleton, for paint blazes beautifully. The greengrocer's just isn't there at all. Not a whole pane remains in the whole street, but improvised shutters in many places bear the legend 'Business as usual'. The pub goes one better with 'Our windows may be poor but our Spirits are as good as ever'. One front door bears the simple legend in chalk '14 rescued'. The next street is busy evacuating because of a delayed-action bomb, neatly in the centre.

7.30 *a.m.*: A few minutes ago a six-wheeler lorry passed our door laden with vast wreckage. It might have been the twisted carcass of an immense long grey shark: it actually was all that is left of an enemy bomber.

And now a figure familiar in a thousand newspaper pictures stands on our doorstep. Mr. Winston Churchill is abroad betimes from Downing Street to see how his neighbours have fared this long night. He wears a tin hat and

genial morning smile. He takes in the vista of our broken windows with a quick glance.

"Anyone hurt?"

"No, sir, thank you."

"That's good. God bless you."

And he is briskly gone before a crowd has time to collect. And God bless *you*, sir, say all of us. We are touched and genuinely grateful.

One more long night is over.



*'Skegg' Blanchard*

The gun carriage bearing Sir Winston Churchill from St. Paul's Cathedral to Tower Pier passes Toc H Headquarters.

## WINSTON CHURCHILL MEMORIAL APPEAL

A MEMORIAL Trust has been set up to provide Churchill Travelling Fellowships to enable any man or woman from any walk of life throughout the Commonwealth and the United States to widen their experience through visiting and learning in the other countries of the Commonwealth and the United States. Branches can assist by offering their experience and services to their Local Authorities, who will be responsible for co-ordinating local community efforts.



# Elder Brethren

'With proud thanksgiving . . .'

BENNETT.—On December 16, ALFRED CHARLES BENNETT, aged 81, a founder member of Putney Park Branch. Elected 22.5.'51.

BODGER.—On January 18, JOHN ERIC STURTON BODGER, C.B.E., aged 71, a member of Seal Branch. Elected Colombo Branch 30.4.'30.

CARMICHAEL.—In October, CYRIL EDWARD CARMICHAEL, aged 44, a member of Mochdre Branch. Elected 17.2.'58.

COCKER.—On December 14, SIDNEY JAMES COCKER, aged 67, a member of Cheriton Branch. Elected 22.10.'50.

COOK.—On January 4, ALFRED COOK, M.M., aged 70, the Pilot of Porlock Branch. Elected 30.6.'38.

DICKINSON.—On December 21, ALBERT NORMAN DICKINSON, aged 44, a member of Seaton Branch. Elected 9.10.'64.

FISHER.—On December 23, WILLIAM STORY FISHER, aged 60, a member of Dalton-in-Furness Branch. Elected 6.4.'50.

GIBSON.—On October 7, GEORGE BENJAMIN GIBSON, aged 81, a member of Biggin Hill Branch. Elected 30.1.'50.

GUY.—On December 28, RAYMOND JOHN GUY, aged 43, a member of Greathouse (Joint) Branch. Elected 21.3.'39.

HARVEY.—On January 6, Captain WALTER STEAN HARVEY, a Western London Area member and for many years Hon. Warden of Mark II. Elected December 1924.

HENDERSON.—On December 24, THOMAS HENDERSON, aged 56, a member of Great Harwood Branch. Elected 14.4.'64.

JOHNSON.—On January 3, BRIAN JOHNSON, aged 28, a member of Staunton Harold Branch. Elected 29.6.'61.

KINSLEY.—In January, HENRY M. KINSLEY ('Kingo'), a member of the former London Central Branch. Elected 18.4.'33.

LITTLEJOHNS.—On December 27, THOMAS LITTLEJOHNS, aged 83, a member of Lapford Branch. Elected 20.11.'48.

PARRY.—On December 24, HERBERT EVAN PARRY, aged 50, a member of Colwyn Bay Branch. Elected 2.1.'62.

PORTEOUS.—On December 18, JAMES THOMPSON PORTEOUS ('Cash'), aged 86, a founder member of Hexham Branch. Elected 1.11.'35.

READ.—On January 4, HAROLD READ, aged 68, a member of Wembley & Preston Branch. Elected 17.10.'55.

THOM.—On December 20, ARTHUR ERNEST THOM ('Campbell'), aged 79, a member of Hexham Branch. Elected 4.4.'52.

WARD.—On January 12, CYRIL WARD, aged 62, the Secretary of Ruislip Branch. Elected 6.4.'50.

WRIGHT.—On December 15, GEOFFREY WILLIAM WRIGHT, aged 64, a member of Dogsthorpe Branch. Elected 12.3.'51.

# Breakthrough

## I.—Change *or* Decay

BOB KNIGHT

"Because there is rarely any proper discussion of principles, changes (on ground of convenience or expediency) tend to be accepted before their implications are understood: and people do not realise what they are losing, until they've lost it".<sup>1</sup>

"The seriousness with which we opt for tomorrow will, to a great extent, show itself in the confidence we place in the younger generation, and therefore also for instance in our readiness to put younger men into leading positions (in which so many jubilees are celebrated)".<sup>2</sup>

THE SOURCES of the two quotations above will be found at the end of this article. Changes inevitably take place wherever there is life, and are familiar enough in our own experience. The amount of change we have to put up with varies from time to time. The more of it we have to sustain the more uncomfortable and bewildering life is.

In some respects the look of the world is altering more significantly in the 1960's than for more than a thousand years. A leading historian of the Church has talked of "the coming reformation". The internal arrangements in and among the Christian denominations are very small stuff, however, when we glimpse other changes taking place.

Change in itself is not a sign of life; there are stages in disintegration. The sign of life is adjustment to change. The same Anglican historian says: "Where change is grudged and refused, no vitality is left". With such significant alterations going on around, it is hardly surprising that we in Toc H are feeling uncomfortable and bewildered.

Many of our discussions would be more helpful if it were clear which aspect of the Movement was under the spotlight—the fundamental insights of fellowship and service, or the organisation in Branches in terms of a weekly night meeting. There is no longer insistence that organisation in Branches is essential for fellowship, because new experiments have proved how mistaken a view that is.

The last few years have shown us that the fundamentals of Toc H are as valid as ever. A local cross-section of men and women voluntarily accepting a degree of responsibility for their own community is necessary in the Welfare State. We know by observation, and not only as a pious hope, that this experience has proved to some how relevant the Christian gospel is. We enthuse about the family of all mankind, and find in practice that most men more readily help in a job than associate with others from a background different to their own. The service which is a hall-mark of the Kingdom of God is easier than the fellowship. By nature we are "selective humanists" and every urban development demonstrates how strongly we prefer to live among our own kind of people.

Although we remain united in our conviction about the fundamentals of fellowship and service, the vote for conventional organisation in Branches and a weekly evening meeting would not be unanimous. There is in some minds a conditioned reflex which leaps to the defence of Branch life whenever some other expression of the fundamentals is mentioned. Yet it is openly admitted that the general standards of Branches have still to be raised. In too many places the room is drab and the proceedings too dull to attract, let alone keep, an enthusiastic newcomer. These Branches must either put their houses in order, or sell them and hand in their Lamps. There are examples already where the members of a Branch that has closed down are now supporting Toc H far more effectively as Builders, or as General Members, meeting with other General Members in a central spot less often than once a week.

Already other forms of organisation have developed which indicate that our future does not lie solely in the Branch



structure. The Centres at Bristol and Croydon; the development of schools projects with careful follow-up, leading to Mobile Action and the register of Volunteers; the adventure centres at Loch Eil, Langdale and Colsterdale; the recreation of local committees for the Marks and their consequent attention to the spirit as well as the administration of the Houses. In all these men and women, most of them the same age as were the first members of Toc H, are given the challenge to put these fundamental insights of fellowship and service to an honest test, and they accept it. They vary in the depth of their commitment and admit it.

The method and significance of these other expressions of Toc H will be assessed in future articles. There are two more points to make here. Each generation looking to the next may see either potential recruits to carry on a treasured tradition, or younger men and women entitled to make traditions of their own in their responsible contribution to society. We need leaders who, by the opportunity they make available to men and women younger than themselves, achieve a mutual trust, and in the end share a Christian view of life. The opportunities are there—a course at an adventure centre, service on a project, the chance to live in a Mark, or to go to the United States as a Clayton Volunteer.

In all these experiments, conventional and unconventional, we cannot afford the half-committed man who waits to see if any new thing is going to be a success before helping it. That can be an abdication of leadership by the man who ought to give it. We need men who are as closely identified with new ways as with old, who can interpret the meaning of both. Thereby they may help those who are involved to appreciate a significance they did not see. We need men who can leave their orthodoxy, whether in Church or Toc H, meet others where they are, and find the way with them into the Kingdom of God.

The quotations are from:—

<sup>1</sup>*Weekend Telegraph*, January 8. "The Peril to Property".

<sup>2</sup>*Laity*, August 1961. "On the way to the world of tomorrow" by J. C. Hockendijk.

# Executive Ability

GEORGE LEE

THE SIX of us were having our usual chatty meeting together, just as we have done for the past three or four years, only on this occasion we had a visitor. Joe, our Chairman, had welcomed him and we gleaned the information that he was our new Central Councillor. Well, how were we to know?: we always leave the choice of a Central Councillor to the larger Branches. We had just reached 'char' time when Bill, the Central Councillor, asked what our programme was for that evening. Silly question, really, as we haven't had a programme for some years now. When he was told this he asked several other pertinent questions and I could see that our Joe was getting a bit aerated, until he finally told Bill that as we had nothing else on for that evening he had better say his piece and get it over with.

Well, he diagnosed our troubles quickly and held the Branch Executive responsible. I felt that what he had to say about the Branch Executive was so darned interesting that I jotted down some of the main points, thinking that they might prove helpful, and here's what I jotted:—

- (1) Even in a small unit such as ours he reckoned that we should still select two or three men to act as the Executive, rather than every Branch meeting becoming in fact an Executive meeting.
- (2) To be really effective the Executive must meet together not only regularly but frequently.
- (3) They should ensure that the Branch meeting place is maintained in good order as the home and workshop of the Branch.
- (4) They should decide how best the Branch can spend its two hours every week in meeting and plan a

balanced varied programme, thereby ensuring that there is not a sameness about the meetings.

- (5) The Executive should seek to make the life of the unit relevant to the life of the community in which they meet, and ensure that a close liaison is maintained with the local Branch of Toc H Women's Association and with kindred societies and organisations.
- (6) From time to time the Executive should study particular qualities and characteristics of the Branch (reference page 61 of *The Toc H Signpost*).
- (7) It should see as one of its prime functions in meeting together the need to keep an eye on probationers and to train and prepare other members to become the leaders of the future. This would mean taking notice of special Dor Knap courses, Area conferences, Poperinge parties, etc., and encouraging the right members to go on them. Also looking out for new literature to help in training.
- (8) Towards the end of every year the Executive should be concerned with the review of membership and the satisfactory completion of the Members' Roll, and, where necessary, with the satisfactory transfer of members no longer to be shown on the Roll.
- (9) The Executive should constantly seek to prove that symbols, ceremonies and traditions have relevance to the life of the Branch and are certainly not mere sentimental attachments.

Well, perhaps that is enough to be going on' with! It is certainly not everything that Bill told us, but by the time he had finished I for one felt that there was a great deal of truth in the statement that he made, that the vitality and effectiveness of the Branch depends in large measure upon the teamwork, the quality and personal witness of the members of its Executive. He warned us, however, against the Branch Executive becoming a clique, a sort of pressure group, and felt that whilst each member of the Executive brings his own special contribution he is also able to draw in turn from the corporate life of the Executive.



Bill stirred us up so much that night that we decided to try and follow his advice. Whilst not fully successful as yet, at least we do now have a programme; our Executive does meet monthly and the results of that are more than obvious. It is like old times in our Branch; things mean something worthwhile to us again and, what is more, those meetings have already attracted two new friends, our first for nearly six years. One of them has just asked for a membership form.

---

## Work Projects

### Summer List

WE WILL BE running a record number of work projects this summer. Dates are given opposite; it is hoped that Branches will help to make these opportunities for service widely known.

Some of the projects involve work for the Nature Conservancy; some are painting and decorating jobs in slum situations; some are jobs for Cheshire Homes, or homes for the mentally handicapped, both manual work and work with patients; some involve the running of recreational programmes for children.

Accommodation is in all cases fairly spartan, and participants are charged a small amount to cover the cost of food. Except where otherwise stated the minimum age for all projects is 16.

The majority of volunteers for these projects come from affiliated schools. One firm, however, has released a number of their apprentices to take part, and five other large firms have shown interest in doing likewise.

Details and application forms from:—Toc H Projects Centre, 41 Trinity Square, London, E.C.3.

K.P-B.

July 11-21	Leeds, Yorks.	Boys only.	Decoration work for Parish.
July 18-24	Lustleigh, Devon (A).	Boys only.	Nature Conservancy Work.
July 18-25	"de Lovie" home for mentally handicapped children, Poperinge, Belgium.	Girls only.	General help with the handicapped.
July 18-25	Woodlarks (Home for Handicapped Guides) Farnham, Surrey (A).	Girls only.	General help with the handicapped.
July 22-31	Camp for boys from Portsea at Ryde, Isle of Wight.	Boys only.	Minimum age 18.
July 24-August 7	Derby Toc H camp for boys.	Boys only.	Minimum age 17½.
July 28-August 7	Survey of an Essex village.	Girls only.	
July 31-August 7	Andover Toc H camp for boys.	Boys only.	Minimum age 18.
August 1-11	Balsall Heath, Birmingham.	Boys only.	Decoration work in slum area.
August 1-11	Lustleigh, Devon (B).	Boys only.	Nature Conservancy Work.
August 1-8	Clarefield Hospital for Mentally Handicapped Children, Maidenhead, Berks.	Mixed party.	Manual work and help with children.
August 8-14	Jersey Toc H camp for boys.	Boys only.	Help with camp activities.
August 8-21	White Windows Cheshire Home, Sowerby Bridge, Halifax.	Mixed party.	Manual work and helping staff.
August 14-21	Woodlarks (see above), Farnham, (B).	Girls only.	Help with the handicapped.
August 15-28	Sparkbrook, Birmingham.	Boys only.	Supervision of children and day-camp programme.
August 21-28	Staunton Harold Cheshire Home, nr. Ashby, Leics.	Mixed party.	Manual work and help to staff.
August 29-September 8	Notting Hill, London.	Boys only.	Decoration work for Notting Hill Housing Trust.
Any week or two-week period during the summer holidays.	Seaside Camp for London Boys, Walmer, Kent. WVS Winged Fellowship holidays for the disabled. Chigwell, Essex.	Boys and Girls.	Minimum age 17.

Projects may also be run at Aberdeen, Gloucester, Whitby and on Exmoor, but details are not yet available.

# Listening to Silence

ANY BOOK by John Durham would have an appreciative welcome in Toc H, but his \**Directed Silence* will be of particular importance, coming at this time when so many of us, inside and outside Toc H, are seeking ways and means to make our faith more meaningful in modern terms, and to recapture a sense of awe.

The book, which is written in a clear and easy style, emphasises the importance of silence in private and corporate worship. It goes on to describe what silence is, both external and internal, and the ways in which it has been used in worship down the centuries—except in the Anglican Church in this country, where largely it has been dropped from public worship.

One of the problems of silence is, not unnaturally, noise—one of the plagues of the modern age. Attempts are made to curb noise, but these efforts are defeated, as often as not, by the advent of even more noise-producing devices. Curiously, to a countryman at least, there are those who seem to like noise and to whom it seems to give security. Any attempt to curb Freedom of Speech raises an outcry; but should not Freedom of Listening be equally sacrosanct?

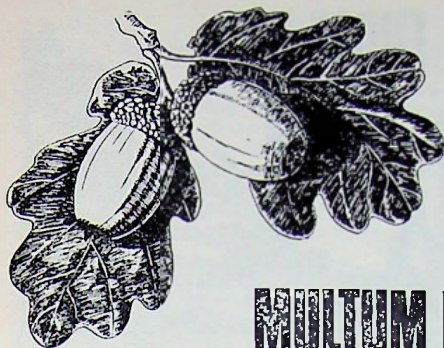
To seek for, and listen to, the “still small voice”, amidst the welter of noise and sound can, as John Durham says, be “hard to come by and difficult to practise”, but, with the disciplines he advocates, much may be achieved.

In our Main Resolution we are bidden “To listen now and always for the voice of God” and a daily period of silence is part of the basic discipline of the Bordon Company. For us all, then, the book has great value.

J.A.D.

\* *Directed Silence* by John Durham, Faith Press, 10s. 0d.





## MULTUM IN PARVO

✧ R. A. R. ('Bob') LESLIE has had to resign his appointment as Hon. Area Secretary for Scotland. Correspondence should continue to be addressed c/o Mrs. H. D. MCKINNA, 35 Plewlands Avenue, Edinburgh, 10.

✧ REG. D. SMITH has now taken up his appointment as South Western Area Secretary and is living at 11 Cranbrook Road, Exeter. Tel.: 58937.

✧ KENNETH MACGOWAN, Chairman of the Pinlico Mobile Action Group, has joined the staff and is responsible for youth projects work with the Northern Regional Team.

✧ NEW YEAR HONOURS. Our congratulations to PERCY THEODORE WILLIAMS, a member of Loughton Branch, made C.B.E., and to RICHARD ROBERTS, Manchester Area Chairman, and GORDON TURVEY, former member of the Toc H staff, both made M.B.E.

✧ COLSTERDALE CENTRE. The address is incorrectly stated in the 1965 Toc H Diary. It should be: Colsterdale, Masham, Ripon, Yorks.

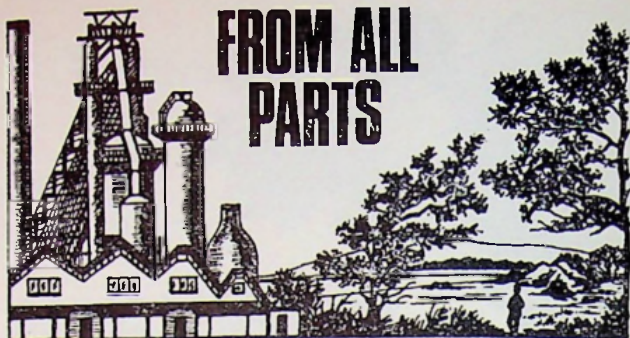
✧ NOTTINGHAM CENTRE. A Toc H Centre has been opened at 31 Shakespeare Street, Nottingham. Tel.: 43316.

✧ EVERY BRANCH MEMBER should be in possession of a current membership card by the end of March.

✧ THE ANNUAL REPORT will be published with the next issue. Branches will be well advised to book at least two evenings for its study.

✧ THE CENTRAL COUNCIL meeting will be held at Hoddesdon on April 3 and 4. Branches should invite their Councillors now to meet them soon after then.

✧ FOR TOC H SERVICES work in Germany, men and women are wanted. Enquiries to Overseas Secretary, Toc H Headquarters.



## AREA NEWS

### NORTH WALES

Toc H roads in the Area will lead to BANGOR on March 18 when the recently reinstated Branch will receive back into their possession a Lamp originally presented to them by the then Prince of Wales at Birmingham in 1932. Called the "Nestor Lamp", it was provided by Harry Reichel, whose name lives on in Neuadd Reiche!, the students' hostel attached to the University College of North Wales.

North Wales plans for the Jubilee celebrations are now taking on a definite form. In addition to an Area 'pilgrimage' to London by special train, a whole week of Area celebrations has been arranged at Bangor in July, when the Church Hostel will be the focal point. There will be talks and lectures by members of Toc H staff and others outside the Family, and an attractive programme of outdoor activities, including possibly the more exhausting ascent of Snowdon.

It is perhaps fitting that during Jubilee Year, the important contribution which Branch padres make to the Movement should not be overlooked. From March 22-24, at St. Deiniol's Library, Hawarden, a padres' conference has been arranged, when among the speakers will be the Administrative Padre, Bob Knight, and Ron Hall, the Manchester Area Padre. It is hoped that in addition to established Branch padres, clergymen who are interested in Toc H and are potential Branch padres, will attend.

ACTON & GARDEN VILLAGE Branch were hosts to over seventy under-privileged youngsters whom they took to Chester pantomime recently. In addition to an ambitious Jubilee week programme which embraces a civic service, entertainments for old and young, and a five-a-side football tournament in which the Branch are receiving full co-operation from the Welsh F.A., members are now involved in organising their annual band festival which will be held on March 20. This year's guest performers are the C.W.S. Band, assisted by the Rhos Orpheus Choir. Needless to say all profits will be devoted to Toc H charities.

WYN ROBERTS

## SOUTHERN

Jubilee year started well with two of our groups, Shanklin and Winchester, making application for Branch status, and we hope that the two other new starts in the Area will soon feel ready to do the same. Shanklin group have joined the ever-widening band of Branches who are now installing warning bell systems in the homes of elderly folk who are living alone.

Our congratulations go to Councillor 'Trader' Horne, of Andover Branch, on his election as Mayor of the Borough. When he takes office in May he will be one of the quickest to reach the Mayoral chair from the time of joining the Council, only four years ago.



*Poole & Dorset Herald*

**Swanage handbell ringers play Christmas carols  
at the local Cottage Hospital**

Several Branches in the Area make good use of their hand-bells at Christmas time, and SWANAGE make this an opportunity for a real family effort. The daughters of three of the members are regular members of the team when they go out to ring carols round the town and in hospitals and old folks' homes.

Members in Southampton have been responsible for the starting of a local branch of the British Epilepsy Association, and CHRISTCHURCH WITH SOUTHBOURNE Branch have sponsored a Bournemouth Branch of the Multiple Sclerosis Society.

Weymouth and Branksome Pioneers are keeping busy with many and varied activities, and it is hoped to make another Pioneer experiment in Portsmouth.

FRED BROOKER



## EAST YORKSHIRE

Members will no doubt recall an article in the December JOURNAL under the title "Colsterdale Kicks Off". Alan Johnson, the Honorary Warden of Brotherton House, Mark XXIII, Leeds, described the start of a new Youth Adventure Centre in the Yorkshire Dales, where some old farm cottage property has been made available to Toc H through the generosity of the Earl of Swinton.

Three years ago the I.T.V. cameras visited Dor Knap and a film was made which was later presented to television viewers. It seemed to a group of York members that what I.T.V. could do at Dor Knap, York Toc H Film Unit could do at Colsterdale! Thus the idea of a Jubilee Year film on the Colsterdale Project came to Frank Turner and Stan Cooke.

The film will tell the whole exciting story, from the discovery of the disused farm property in the heart of some beautiful countryside by Jack Hoyle of Hensall Branch, to its acquisition and development by Branches in Yorkshire as a youth centre. Much hard work has been done to repair and convert the property to its new use, and much still remains to be done. The film will record for posterity (and in colour) the story of this pioneering Toc H job in Jubilee Year, and much of the recorded commentary will be spoken by Bob Purdy, our Area Secretary. The unit will be out on location on many weekends during the Spring and Summer, completing the film.

All this will be in addition to their usual crowded programme of film shows in York and district, which are presented at a centre for the handicapped, the Elizabeth Fry Home, an International Friendship Club, The Cheshire Home at Alne Hall and many other places. The York Toc H Film Unit is certainly going to be more than usually busy during this Jubilee Year.

BILL HARDY

## NOTTS & DERBY

On New Year's Eve, members of the Area placed a floodlit banner, together with a Toc H Lamp, on a truck and, escorted by fifteen motor cycle outriders, proceeded to the City Square a little before midnight to take 'Light' publicly to mark the commencement of Jubilee Year. Arrangements had been made with the police to clear a space on the Square for the truck and escort. Unfortunately, no such space had been prepared, and when the truck halted, some thirty revellers came aboard, kicking over the floodlights and overturning the Lamp. The absence of the police was due to the fact that an even larger number of revellers were engaged in overturning the Christmas Tree in the centre of the Square! The truck with its unruly cargo proceeded to the police station, where all the revellers fled, leaving the Staff man clutching the Lamp. Although the ceremony was not held as planned, this unfortunate incident gave Toc H more publicity than we had expected!

A few days later three hundred members and guests assembled at the Rolls Royce Social Centre in Derby as one of the Area Jubilee functions were surprised and showed some apprehensions when twenty-five black-leathered and helmeted teenage motor cyclists of both sexes streamed into the hall. They need not have feared, for the motor cyclists were invited guests, members of the Clifton Motor





*H. Tempest, Nottingham*

#### **Santa Claus arrives at Bingham by diesel train**

Cycle Club and of the Nottingham Forty-One Club, who had co-operated in the New Year's Eve Jubilee demonstration. A girl and a boy from each of the two Clubs were interviewed and the audience soon realised that the Clubs had much in common with Toc H, as their members used their machines in jobs of voluntary social service. At Christmas they had distributed eighty-odd food parcels to shut-in folk and to the under-privileged. We hope that there will be further co-operation between them and Toc H.

**BILL HARRIS**

For the second year BINGHAM Branch staged the arrival of Santa Claus for a 'Civic Visit' on Christmas Eve. Over seven hundred people turned out to see Santa (alias Bill Harris, our Area Secretary) arrive with his Snowball Attendants by diesel train. He was welcomed at the station by the Town Crier and Station Master and was then conveyed, on a 1908 Daimler coach, in procession to the Market Square where Major General Sir Miles Graham officially welcomed him on behalf of the townspeople. Santa then invited all children present to bring their gifts to him for distribution to less fortunate children who would otherwise not be receiving a present on this night, and was overwhelmed by the rush of children anxious to hand in their gifts. Over five hundred parcels were given containing toys, books and games of all kinds, all of which were distributed later in the evening by the Salvation Army. A Carol Service followed immediately, led by the Salvation Army Band.

In addition to this Christmas Eve effort, the Branch raised over £65 during the Christmas period by carol singing and street collections for various charities.

**PHILIP JACQUES**

## BEDS. & HERTS.

During the last few months members of BUCKINGHAM Branch have been installing Emergency Lights in houses where old people live alone. The equipment, based on a design borrowed from WOLVERTON Branch, is simply a box containing a battery and 'flicker' bulb which is placed at a window, and wired to a drop switch by the bedside. When the switch is operated a flashing red light appears at the window to tell passers-by that help is needed.

Apart from the obvious benefit to the user, who may be too ill to search about for assistance, there are other 'fringe' benefits. Many of these old folk are intensely independent, but the batteries need to be checked at regular intervals and this is a perfect excuse to drop in for a chat and run an eye over things. The local authorities had to be approached for permission to install lights in the almshouses—a useful contact—and the press carried a big article to tell the public what was expected of them if they saw a light flashing. Attention was in this way drawn to the needy of the town, and to the existence of a Toc H Branch.

DENNIS MASON



*Western Morning News*

The new Order of Service for Jubilee Thanksgiving came into use for the first time in January at Plymouth.

## NORTHERN AREA

Terry Holmes who suffers from Still's Disease has been confined to hospital and a wheelchair for the greater part of his life but this has been no handicap to him. He lives in the Chester-le-Street Hospital but has still been able to lead an active life. He is a member of CHESTER-LE-STREET Branch, a member of the Physically Handicapped Club, and a champion chess player. He still finds time to study maths for the General Certificate of Education this year.

With all this he looks for even more; he has a handprinting machine and undertakes printing of dance tickets and letter-headed note-paper. To set his type and use a typewriter he uses a stick to tap the keys. Terry says he never gets bored and is unable to understand people who are. At times he gets downhearted but never gives in. His great friend Tommy Dawson, a member of Pelton Branch, and a member of the Handicapped Club, is always there to take him out and cheer him up.

HEXHAM Branch repaired over 2,000 toys at Christmas and held a party for children who had not had a party over the festive season. They are now building an aviary next to the children's ward at the local hospital.

BILL BURTON

### SOUTH WALES AND MONMOUTHSHIRE

ROATH Branch began Jubilee Year in great style by organising the fourteenth annual Christmas party for local spastics. It was in January 1950 that the Branch meeting first heard about spastics, which led them to give the first Christmas party for them ever held in the United Kingdom. Ever since then, on the first Saturday of the New Year, they have been holding these parties and the fun and entertainment this year was as fast and furious as ever. Even those in wheelchairs, on crutches, or in irons took part in the games, including the dancing and the musical chairs. The link with the Cardiff Spastics Association, which they helped to form, has grown stronger with the years. Branch members serve on the committee and have come to know their spastic friends particularly well in the Club which they helped to start two years ago.

CEFN COED Branch also began the year in the right party spirit by giving their thirtieth annual party for some 200 elderly folk. To cope with such a large collection of guests they were fortunate to have the use of a works canteen, with the help of the staff to cook an excellent meal. The old people's own choir was a highlight of the entertainment.

GEORGE ATKINSON

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## Christmas Card Competition

THE WINNERS of the Christmas Card Competition, of which details were given in the June 1964 Journal are:—

Class I A three-colour design of a Nativity or Epiphany scene, whether in traditional or original concept.

P. May, Saltash Branch.

Class II A black-and-white photographic subject related in any way to the Christmas Theme.

R. A. Churches, Newbury Branch.

We thank the competitors for their contributions. £5 prizes have been sent to the winners.



# “Promotion of District Teams”

## 1 — Germ of an Idea

JOHN CALLF

LATE ONE Saturday night in 1956 I was on a train taking me back to London after attending an Area Executive far out in the provinces. Life in those days consisted very largely at week-ends of doing the rounds of Area Executives and this particular Area had a deservedly high reputation. Thinking back, the meeting had seemed well up to standard; good attendance of about thirty chaps, some of the old familiars and a sprinkling of new faces, and a thoroughly cheerful atmosphere. Then hard upon this feeling that it had been a grand Area Executive meeting there intruded a horrid thought; what a shocking waste of time and talent!

Running my mind back over the agenda it seemed that nearly all of us, myself included, had spent about ninety per cent of our time listening to things that couldn't remotely be said to be our concern. We had sat around whilst some ten District reports were mumbled through and, truth to tell, no representative could claim to be very much involved with the progress of the nine Districts besides his own; those reports might just as well have come from nine Districts at the other end of the kingdom.

The Area Treasurer took us through all the financial statistics of all the Districts and there were long discussions and explanations wherever the statistics touched upon particular Districts. The Area Guard of the Lamp report on re-grants of Branch status took a long time, with much attention given to the special circumstances of the struggling Branch at N... For all that it involved most people there we might just as well have been discussing the health of Wagga Wagga Branch in Australia.



One of the few times that all thirty came into the picture together was in discussing plans for an Area Festival and this could have been dealt with far more decisively by only four or five men! "Part Two—discussion", as usual last on the agenda, had barely had time to get going before men were slipping away for trains and buses.

My feeling that we had been wasting the time and ability of first-class fellows was followed by the growing realisation that to all but a few top officers an Area was a completely meaningless geographical stretch of country; double it or halve it and it wouldn't make much odds to the ordinary member. For him the real unit of Toc H was the Branch, but as Branches could not flourish in isolation they must obviously be linked together in convenient groupings for mutual support and encouragement.

Clearly the most convenient grouping of Branches was the District—some six to ten Branches within gossiping distance of one another, reasonably accessible by car or even bicycle, so that Branches could be on visiting terms and the District Officers could become well known. Thinking back to my own days as a young Branch member the District and the District Training Camp meant a lot to me. The Area represented some inconceivably large formation with an office in the next county.

If, then, the District, not the Area, was the more meaningful grouping of Branches, what a pity it was that executive responsibility seemed to centre more on the Area Executive than on District Teams. So long as Area Executives stood, like great beech trees in whose shade no other trees could grow, one could scarcely expect District Teams to grow towards their own full stature. Why not, therefore, entrust District Teams with the real executive responsibility and have a much smaller team of Area leaders, free to exercise a pastoral and teaching role with the District Officers?

A few months later I put up to the Central Executive a case for "The Abolition of Area Executives". They promptly threw it out, but advised me to try it on the staff conference, where, in fact, it fared no better. In both cases the

main defence was that Area Executives were an excellent way of getting leaders together from all parts of an Area. In other words they were defending Area Executives for their non-executive values, as a meeting place of minds, and this was exactly the point I was making. Let Districts deal responsibly with Branch status, extension, finance, membership matters, etc. Let a few Area leaders do whatever Area planning needed to be done, and let this planning include the regular calling together of particular men from the Districts for specific purposes. Thus District and Branch Jobmasters might be convened for a conference on job-mastery; extension enthusiasts for a sharing of ideas about extension; pilots for training; treasurers for finance, and so on. In all cases men would be fully engaged upon their own subjects, not sitting around listening to matters which could not possibly concern them.

A year later I raised the matter again at the Central Executive, only this time, with Rex Calkin's wise advice, I called it, not "The Abolition of Area Executives", but "The Promotion of District Teams". This subtle change may have won the day, for this time agreement was given to a trial run in three very dissimilar Areas—always provided that three Areas could be found to give it a go.

This was not too difficult, though naturally there were members who viewed the business with grave suspicion and needed full assurance that if the scheme did not work it would quickly be abandoned. The oddest objection came from a few Branches that didn't like being responsible to a District Team, on the grounds that they knew each other!

The new 'machinery' had to be worked out, and some smaller Districts were merged in order to make more viable groupings of Branches. That the scheme as a whole has justified itself is proven by the fact that today some seventeen Areas have now adopted it voluntarily.

In a short series of articles we shall examine the experience gained so far, as seen from different levels of leadership, and see how much still remains to be applied before the full value of the 'experiment' can be computed.



## OPINION



## READERS' LETTERS

### "Wrestling Jacob"

WESLEY'S HYMNS (1779 edition) states that the tune for this hymn is *Traveller*. In an old Methodist Hymn Book I found two tunes called *Traveller* set to this hymn.

I feel sure that one of these must be the one referred to in Wesley's Hymns though I cannot be certain which one. Both belong to the late 18th century style. The second, by Marmaduke Miller is more vigorous than the first, though the first gives more attention to the wistful portion of the words.

It will be for Mr. Clayton to decide which he prefers. He can't go wrong in choosing either!

Rev. FRANCIS B. WESTBROOK  
*Secretary, Methodist  
Church Music Society.*

### Radio Link-up

DURING THEIR Jubilee Exhibition of Arts and Crafts on Saturday, May 15, opening at 11 a.m., Coalville Branch, in conjunction with Coalville Radio Amateur Club, will be eager to exchange greetings over the ether with other Branches.

I suggest a Fellowship Network; we shall be recording all contacts. Can we span the

world? Contact your local Radio Club or any enthusiast; they may help. I shall be interested to hear from others.

E. J. GASTON  
143, Forest Road,  
Coalville, Leics.

### Mobile Action

IT HAS recently been pointed out to me that there is a remarkable resemblance between the early Church and Mobile Action. Both consist (or consisted) of a group of active people with the one unifying idea that love is right. From this belief in love spring various activities, not least important being a regular supper (the early Christians called it the 'Lord's Supper'). The Church has been a political power, a source of the most bloody wars in history, and today little more than an organisation of impotent sentimentalists. I think we run no risk either of entering politics or of going to war, but sentimentality is a much greater danger. It is disturbing that in so young a Movement as ours there are already members who seem little more than wishy-washy dogooders, including myself.

K. S. SMITH  
*Battersea,  
London, S.W.11.*

## Borstal Parcels

FOR SOME YEARS the senior forms of many schools have, originally at the invitation of Toc H, been sending Christmas parcels to boys in borstal who, because they are homeless or because their families are unable or unwilling to send them a Christmas gift, would otherwise receive nothing from the outside world.

Year by year the number of schools taking part in this scheme has increased and last Christmas 72 schools contributed a total of 900 parcels, an all-time record. So generous was the response indeed that for the first time we were able to supply parcels for homeless boys in certain detention centres and hostels.

I do not have to emphasize the value of such gifts to those who are often emotionally deprived and I should like to express on behalf of my colleagues and myself to all who have played a part in the scheme our deep feeling of gratitude for such abundant generosity.

FRANK FOSTER

Director, Borstal After-Care.  
*London, S.W.1.*

## "Happiness, Happiness . . ."

RAY FABES says: "This is harmless, happy music. Try listening to it yourself for hours on end". I have no objection to people listening to their own transistors, provided the noise is not inflicted upon others; but I do object to having "Yeh! Yeh! Yeh!" brayed at me on Friar's Crag or on Scafell Pike. I should imagine that the "brilliant university students" who "gain first class academic successes" do so

in spite of the "constant noise" not because of it. Ray says that Beat makes people forget themselves for a while—it certainly does!

HAROLD W. SPEIGHT

*Kendal,  
Westmorland.*

I HASTEN to support Ray Fabes' "Fair play for Pop and beat music" attitude. I work in a record shop, which gives me a fairly close view of the so-called emotional, drug crazy youngster of today. Perhaps they have things more in perspective than we credit.

I have heard these Pop-loving kids give a very creditable and sensitive performance of Handel's *Messiah* half an hour after a raucous rendering of Screaming Lord Sutch. Carols and Cliff mix very well too.

I don't believe these teenagers have things so much out of balance as some might imagine. Surely four high-spirited and happy young men belting out "She Loves You, Yeh, Yeh, Yeh!" could not be considered any more unhealthy than, say, grand opera which dwells on such themes as cruelty, murder, poison, T.B., hopeless love, death and suicide, all delightfully expressed, no doubt, but surely equally capable of distorting the young mind and playing upon the emotions.

Pop is only part of the mixture and as such is not bad. Toc H thrives on mixtures and the whole mixture is still pretty good.

PEGGY LEONARD

Pilot, Henley-on-Thames  
(Joint) Branch

*Henley-on-Thames,  
Oxon.*



I FEEL I must take away some of the gloss Ray has given to the 'beat' merchants. Having spent many years in the entertainment business behind the footlights, I think I am able to give a clearer picture of this 'group' business than the people who only see the public image.

First, I would disagree with Ray when he says that this medium creates happiness. It creates an artificial feeling of happiness, but it is so shallow and meaningless that it doesn't last, and that is one reason for the restlessness of the teenagers. Their emotions are inflamed to such an extent that the sudden return to a normal level leaves them seeking kicks to raise them up again. I have seen an audience of five thousand teenagers behave like animals and the evening end in a riot.

Secondly, how can one say that education is aimed to help us to be individuals? After a

recent concert, we asked three girls why they screamed; the answer in each case was, "Because they do it". Individuals?

The small time groups may be fun; it could be a giggle for them and their friends, but underlying it all is the hope that they will be able to join the ranks of the fortune makers. It makes me see red when I think of the amount of money these beat groups are paid; they have had little or no tuition, the majority of them cannot even read music, yet a musician who has spent years of his life studying his profession can only make a bare living.

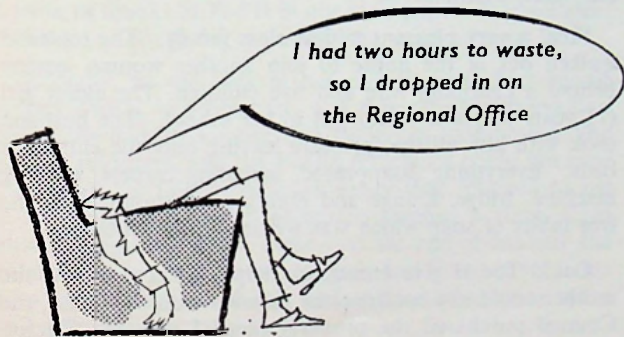
I'm sorry, Ray; I know these people and I know their attitude to everybody on the other side of the footlights. The only happiness they are concerned about is their own happiness and that of their entourage.

*Blackpool,  
Lancs.*

L. H. STEAD

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says: Ernie



# Aiding Public Assistance

GORDON MINSHULL

**A**N ARTICLE of mine in the April 1962 JOURNAL described a job which the Clacton Branch were asked to do by the Public Assistance authority. This concerned a family which was to be evicted and broken up because of the condition of their home. The father had deserted; the mother was mentally backward; yet the children were loyal and several of them showed real promise. In response, the Branch redecorated and refurnished the entire cottage. The family have never let things go since that time and the oldest son is at university.

The important point was that a Government Department was approaching Toc H officially, asking for its co-operation in doing something beyond its own resources and limitations. Because of this unique happening the event was featured in the JOURNAL and in government publications.

Here at Clacton the close association has continued, and there is no doubt that these jobs are done in cases where the need is most desperate. Because the need is desperate, the job becomes the most satisfying. Let me mention two of our latest examples:—

First, a very pleasant middle-class family. The husband walked out of the house to join another woman leaving behind a charming wife and five children. The eldest girl (11 years old) was senior girl in her school. The husband took with him all the furniture leaving only the children's beds. Everything disappeared, including carpets, washing machine, fridge, lounge and dining room suites, even the free tablet of soap which was waiting in the letter box.

Could Toc H give immediate help? Of course! As the mother could not continue the payments on the house, the Council purchased the property (need I say that Clacton



*Anglia Photographic Service.*

**Bargain Basement ! Clacton members sort out the furniture which their public appeal brought in.**

Toc H is represented on the Council?) and rented it to her. A member paid the £5 h.p. still owing on the main bedroom suite, which the husband had happily left. The Branch took along, piece by piece, the carpets and essential furniture, and this is still going on. In addition fruit, flowers, clothing, toys, are all pouring in. Another friend of Toc H has made arrangements with his butcher to send her a large joint of meat every Saturday. Today, as I write this report, there is a letter of thanks to Toc H in our local paper. It concludes: "Thank you for giving me a new chance of a happy life."

Secondly, an old lady in her eighties, who had herself helped Toc H in years past, was threatened with eviction unless she had the kitchen and bathroom redecorated. She had no resources, and the Public Assistance could not provide funds for this purpose. However they 'phoned to see if we could help. The jobmaster planned a three night attack using four men a night. At the end of this time the rooms were as good as new; the lady had found new friends who will keep an eye on her; and no doubt the dining room will soon be re-papered as well.



We are waiting to help in a nearby town. A woman has been separated from her husband who is a violent rotter of the worst possible type. The local authorities have put her right at the top of the local housing list. Toc H has been asked to stand by to provide the minimum amount of furniture and necessities to start a new home.

Toc H has also been approached by the Home-Help Service to furnish a flat for two blind old-age pensioners who have recently married! Also by a local welfare officer to provide furniture for an unmarried mother with two children. Also by the Tuberculosis Association to furnish a flat for a T.B. patient returning to normal life after three years' treatment.

An appeal was made in the local paper asking for furniture, blankets, and effects to meet these exigencies. The following week an appeal had to be made to stop the enormous volume of goods offered to the Branch!

Evidently our reputation for 'walking the second mile' extends beyond the statutory bodies. One Sunday Dennis Hotson, our Secretary, was just allowing his dinner to settle when the telephone rang and he found himself in conversation with a Catholic priest who could think of nowhere to turn other than Toc H for some help that was very urgently needed.

It appeared that a family had just moved into the area and as yet their furniture and personal effects had not been brought to their new home from their old abode several miles away. The man of the house had only his working clothes with him, apart from a change of underclothes, and his wife had decided to take all the clothing she could find to the Launderette to wash. While she was attending to some other matters in town someone stole her bag of washing, husband's only suit as well. The poor man was 'confined to bed' and was due to leave on a long distance drive at 4 a.m. next day! Within an hour of the Branch getting the 'vital statistics' the man was able to leave his bedroom in trousers, shirt, tie, pullover and sports jacket, with a heavy overcoat thrown in for good measure!



We haven't ever seen the 'trouserless man' and we don't know how well our clothing fitted him, but we hope he will one day find his way to our Branch meetings—with his trousers, of course!

¶ We feel sure that this liaison between Toc H and the Public Assistance and Welfare Authorities is well worth while, and we suggest other Branches might copy. A speaker from one of these departments could set the ball rolling, and lead to great things for good and for God.

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## Jubilee Jottings

**A** FOUNDATION member who wishes to remain anonymous has promised a seven year covenant to mark the Jubilee. It will produce, with tax recovered, some £2,600 towards the cost of certain specified projects. Here is faith and action indeed.

The B.B.C. will be "Down Your Way" in Poperinge for the Jubilee Celebrations there. The programme is scheduled for the Home Service at 4.0 p.m. on Sunday, June 20.

How do we build on the Jubilee? Are you looking that far ahead? If you are, the Jubilee Secretary will welcome your company on a forward-looking holiday at Dor Knap, July 9-15.

Chippenhams Branch has persuaded 32 of the town's 70 voluntary organisations to join them in staging an exhibition. "All these things are going on and the man in the street just doesn't know", says the local paper.

The Belgian Post Office has just announced that the Talbot House stamp will be issued on June 21, so that First Day Covers will be on sale during the Poperinge celebrations.

# Someone to Turn To

RUPERT BLISS

I THINK IT A fair generalisation to say that all movements amongst men and women are the result of a contagious sense of dissatisfaction over an existing state of affairs. It is certainly true of the growth of Toc H after the First World War, and all my fellow members are well informed about what that state was.

Of the various states-of-things existing during the Second World War, one which caused many people a sharp pain in the mind was the breakdown of thousands and thousands of war-time marriages. The agony and misery of it was bad enough for the husbands and wives concerned; but far, far worse was it for all their children. So it came about that groups of people came together all over the country to try and see what they could do about it.

As soon as they became known, these groups found themselves besieged by distressed husbands and wives pouring out their woes and begging for guidance through the mess in which they found themselves. The Counsellors (this was the name they were given) did their best, believing that this was just a short-term post-war problem which would quickly pass. But it didn't. The demand dropped slightly after the first twelve months' spate; but, since then, the requests for the provision of someone to turn to have risen steadily, so that today we are little better off than we were in 1946, except that the movement, now known as the Marriage Guidance Council movement, is larger, better organised, better known, and far more experienced than it was in those early days.

The movement is run by volunteers, men and women like you and me. The work is exacting, but infinitely rewarding. It is no more exacting and no less rewarding than any top-grade Toc H job of work you can think of. Just imagine a number of happily-restored families, each saying "if it hadn't been for so-and-so, our marriage would have broken on the rocks".

The job is for married people, and every inch as much for the wife of a Toc H man as for a Toc H man himself. The recruiting age is mainly between thirty and fifty (extensible to 25-55) and the range otherwise unlimited by religious doctrine, sex, class, race, colour, or politics. In practice, however, principle 2 rules out as Counsellors those who are divorced, and principle 4 practising Roman Catholics. The need for new recruits is particularly great in London and the big provincial cities.

There is a most effective scheme of training, designed especially for ordinary people—and it's all free. In this we train both Counsellors and Education Counsellors. This latter training is a newer and most interesting development, through which we promote study groups in schools and colleges, and preparation groups amongst engaged couples, so grappling with matrimonial snags before striking them.

To make a good Counsellor (of whichever kind) you need to be a pretty relaxed personality, a good listener, well able to laugh at yourself, really interested in and sympathetic with thoughts, feelings, attitudes, hopes, fears wholly different from your own, and without any chips on your shoulder.

If you feel at all stirred to follow this matter up, simply ring the Secretary of your local Marriage Guidance Council, and say you are interested. I would appeal specially to Pilots and Jobmasters to think of any members, or wives of members who might fill the bill, and put the matter to them. The Pilot should not forget himself in the process, for a good Pilot is pretty close to being a good potential Counsellor, just as he is.



Corresponding to our own Main Resolution and our Four Points of the Compass, the movement is guided by five Principles and five Aims. These are:

1. Successful marriage, the foundation of happy family life, is vital to the well-being of society.
2. Marriage should be entered upon as a partnership for life, with reverence and a sense of responsibility.
3. Spiritual, emotional and physical harmony in marriage is only achieved by unselfish love and self-discipline.
4. Children are the natural fulfilment of marriage and enrich the relationship between husband and wife; nevertheless, scientific contraception, when used according to conscience within marriage, can contribute to the health and happiness of the whole family.
5. The right basis for personal and social life is that sexual intercourse should take place only within marriage.
6. To enlist, through a national system of selection and training the services of men and women qualified for the work of reconciliation and education in marriage and family life.
7. To help parents and others to give children an appreciation of family life; and to make available to young men and women before marriage such guidance as may promote right relationships in friendship, courtship, marriage and parenthood.
8. To assist those who are about to marry to understand the nature, responsibilities and rewards of the married state.
9. To offer counsel to those who encounter difficulties in the way of married happiness, if possible before these difficulties become serious.
10. To work towards a state of society in which the welfare of the family shall receive primary consideration, and parenthood shall nowhere involve unreasonable social and economic disabilities.

You can join as a member of the movement, without becoming a worker member, and an annual subscription

of one pound entitles you to the council's monthly bulletin, *Marriage Guidance*. The history of the movement is contained in a book, *Someone to Turn To*, by J. H. Wallis; Routledge, 7s. 6d.

If you are interested please get in touch with the National Marriage Guidance Council, 58 Queen Anne Street, London W.1. for full details of selection and training for their work and the address of your nearest Marriage Guidance Council.

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## Migration Aftermath

ONE WOULD NOT expect to be frightened by a book with so ponderous a title as *West Indian Migrants and the London Churches*,\* but the conclusions drawn by the author, Padre Clifford S. Hill, make one look with trepidation to the future. This book, written for the London Institute of Race Relations, examines the impact of West Indian migrants upon London and Londoners, the part all denominations of the Church have played in the assimilation, attitudes and general life of these migrants, and in turn the West Indians' attitudes and feelings toward the Church.

From painstakingly gathered statistics and facts the author paints a picture of London in the all too near future. A London with entire areas virtually West Indian ghettos, self-contained communities within a community. It is made clear that such community segregation carried through to succeeding generations can only lead to ever deepening lines of racial separation. Mr. Hill does not hesitate to use the word apartheid to describe the conditions that could arise.

What can be done to prevent such situations arising, or are they inevitable? The book does not offer any easy way

\* *West Indian Migrants and the London Churches*, by Clifford S. Hill, Oxford University Press, 8s. 6d.

out but does give reason for hope. It makes, amongst other points, one that we are all apt to forget, that not only is it necessary for the Englishman to accept the migrant; it is equally important for the migrant to accept the Englishman. The author sees the Church as the solution to this and many other problems of integration. It has, as is rightly stressed, a unique position and standing in the community which could be used to tremendous advantage. No veil is drawn over the unpreparedness of the Church at the moment to meet such a challenge; and the plea is made for more trained men in the field of race relations. He also calls for a greater understanding and sympathy with the customs and standards of the West Indian migrant, amongst both the ministry and the laity.

The last is the one which should concern us most, for we in Toc H have an equal opportunity, along with the Church, of helping with this 'frontier need'. Before we can do so, however, we must acquaint ourselves fully with the situation. There could be no better start to this than the reading of Mr. Hill's excellent little book. The many charts of statistics concerning church impact on the migrant are themselves fascinating, while the text and general content provide a thorough introduction into the problem involved.

J.D.

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## Mark Well

Wanted a man aged 40-55 for Mark XX for about two years during expansion. Single man, or married man whose wife will undertake housekeeping. Remuneration and terms therefore subject to discussion. The work, mainly in the Mark but also in London Area, means that this job will require a man convinced of the aims and objects of Toc H. Preference will be for a man capable of training a Marksman to run the expanded Mark soon after it is fully operational.



# JOURNAL SMALLS

## HOLIDAY ACCOMMODATION

**BRUGES, BELGIUM.** — Toc H parties and individual visitors to this lovely old city are offered good accommodation and excellent meals in a very friendly atmosphere at **HOTEL JACOBS**. Within easy reach of coast and other famed Cities of Art. English spoken, strongly recommended. Write for brochure and terms to Mr. Jules Lietaert, Hotel Jacobs, 1 Ballestraat, Bruges, Belgium



**GUERNSEY, C.I.** Good homely fare in Toc H family. Terms B.B. & E.M. £7. 7. 0d. — Write Mrs. P. Saunders, Petherton, Tertre Lane, Vale. Telephone St. Sampson's 4756.

**FURNISHED** cottage to let from 1 May. North Cornish coastal village. Sleep six. Burrett, "Perrotts Brook", Cirencester.

**BOOK NOW** for a holiday in true Toc H spirit and fellowship at Warden Manor, Isle of Sheppey. Extended season this year July 3 to September 18. Also open Easter and Whitsun. Write John Cole, at 1 Warrior Square Terrace, St Leonards on Sea, Sussex. Terms £6. 15. 0. each weekly; children under 13, £5 weekly. Note: a few vacancies still remain for Easter.

**FOR EARLY HOLIDAYS** for convalescence in Spring sunshine, you will enjoy Normanhurst, the small friendly hotel in Britain's "Best Climate". Book for winter terms up till March 27. Twin-bedded 6/8 gns. including three chef-cooked meals daily plus afternoon tea; early tea; breakfast-in-bed service; heated bedroom (C.H. everywhere hotel). No gratuities. Fresh fruit daily. Two lounges (T.V.). Singles £8. 10. 0d. upwards or Annexe 6 gns. Recommended by readers. Also booking now for April/October. Own beach hut (free). Illustrated brochure (kindly state month). Normanhurst, situated premier position facing South, opposite all weather promenade; near extensive gardens, churches, theatres, Sun Lounge. Normanhurst, Sea Front, St. Leonards, Sussex.

**COMFORTABLE** holiday accommodation with Toc H family. 15 mins. from beach. Good bus service. B.B. & E.M. 7½ gns. per week. Children under 12 years half price. Mrs. M. Pattimore, La Hougue du Nord, La Haize, Vale, Guernsey. C.I.

**WANTED, URGENTLY.** helper, willing to cook and help generally in very small endowed Guest House. Light post for somebody under sixty. Excellent off duty. Salary by arrangement. Lover of people and country life essential. Apply: Warden, Broadwood House, Shorne, nr. Gravesend, Kent.

**STAMPS FOR OXFAM.** Help feed the hungry. Please send gifts of stamps, albums, anything philatelic, to the Rev. Dick Tuesday, 263 Mansel Road, Millbrook, Southampton.

**TOC H TIES** in new design with miniature gold lamps on black ground. Current prices:

All Rayon Rep Weave	12/3
Terylene	14/9
All Silk Rep Weave	17/11
Club Stripe Pattern also available:	
Terylene	10/6
All Silk	13/11

Plus postage, 6d.

Direct from the Official Outfitters: —

**C. R. THOMPSON LTD.**

41 Railway Approach,  
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## *A Toc H Jubilee Venture*

# Etembeni

**A handsome twelve-page brochure** containing sixteen coloured photographs of the Toc H T.B. Settlement at Botha's Hill, Natal.

**Also a tape recording** by Don McKenzie and Mr Mazibuko, an African Agriculturalist, describing their problems, and plans for future action (speed 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ ).

An accompanying set of 71 colour transparencies (35 mm.) provides graphic illustration.

### *How you can help*

**Get copies** of this fine brochure for yourself and your friends. (Minimum contribution 2s. 6d. per copy, but we hope many people will give more.)

**Hire the tape and transparencies** (10s.) and plan a Guest-night, inviting the whole town to hear of the Etembeni venture.

**Organise an extra Special Effort** to help meet the cost of this new work.

*For further details write to your Area Secretary, who now has copies of the tape and transparencies.*